

**DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY - USA PATENT APPLICATION**

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that:

My residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name;

I believe I am the original, first and sole inventor (if only one name is listed below) or an original, first and joint inventor (if plural names are listed below) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled FILLING CONNECTION FOR A GAS BOTTLE VALVE the specification of which:

- (a) ☐ is attached hereto; or
- (b) ☐ was filed on \_\_\_\_\_ as ☐ Serial No. 0 / \_\_\_\_\_  
or ☐ Express Mail No., as ☐ Serial No. not yet known \_\_\_\_\_  
and was amended on \_\_\_\_\_ (if applicable); or
- (c) ☒ was described and claimed in PCT International Application No. PCT/EP98/03734 filed on June 18, 1998 and as amended under PCT Article 19 on \_\_\_\_\_ (if any).

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above;

I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to the examination of this application in accordance with Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, § 1.56;

I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under Title 35, United States Code, § 119 of any foreign application(s) for patent, design or inventor's certificate or any PCT international application(s) listed below and have also identified below any foreign application(s) for patent, design or inventor's certificate or any PCT international application(s) designating at least one country other than the United States of America filed for the same subject matter having a filing date before that of the application(s) of which priority is claimed:

**PRIOR FOREIGN APPLICATION(S)**

| COUNTRY (OR INDICATE IF PCT) | APPLICATION NUMBER | DATE OF FILING (day, month, year) | PRIORITY CLAIMED UNDER 37 U.S.C. § 119  |                             |
|------------------------------|--------------------|-----------------------------------|---|-----------------------------|
| German                       | 297 10 553.1       | 18.06.1997                        | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES | NO <input type="checkbox"/> |
|                              |                    |                                   | <input type="checkbox"/> YES            | NO <input type="checkbox"/> |
|                              |                    |                                   | <input type="checkbox"/> YES            | NO <input type="checkbox"/> |
|                              |                    |                                   | <input type="checkbox"/> YES            | NO <input type="checkbox"/> |
|                              |                    |                                   | <input type="checkbox"/> YES            | NO <input type="checkbox"/> |



Attorney's Docket No. \_\_\_\_\_

I hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code, § 120 of any United States application(s) listed below, and insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in the prior United States application in the manner provided by the first paragraph of Title 35, United States Code § 112, I acknowledge the duty to disclose to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office all information known to me to be material to patentability as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, § 1.56, which became available between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of this application:

Prior U.S.A. Application(s)

Serial No.: \_\_\_\_\_ Filing Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Status: \_\_\_\_\_

**POWER OF ATTORNEY:** I hereby appoint the following attorneys and/or agents to prosecute this application and to transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith (if this application is assigned, I acknowledge that the appointed individuals do not represent me, and that instead they represent the assignee): Applicant hereby appoints Louis J. Knobbe, Registration No. 18,780; Don W. Martens, Registration No. 21,107; Gordon H. Olson, Registration No. 20,319; James B. Bear, Registration No. 25,221; Darrell L. Olson, Registration No. 28,247; William B. Bunker, Registration No. 29,365; William H. Nieman, Registration No. 30,201; Lowell Anderson, Registration No. 30,990; Arthur S. Rose, Registration No. 28,038; James F. Lesniak, Registration No. 25,240; Ned A. Israelsen, Registration No. 29,655; Drew S. Hamilton, Registration No. 29,801; Jerry T. Sewell, Registration No. 31,567; John B. Sganga, Jr., Registration No. 31,302; Edward A. Schlatter, Registration No. 32,297; Gerard von Hoffmann, Registration No. 33,043; William C. Rooklidge, Registration No. 31,791; Joseph R. Re, Registration No. 31,291; John M. Carson, Registration No. 34,303; Andrew H. Simpson, Registration No. 31,469; Daniel E. Altman, Registration No. 34,115; Anita M. Kirkpatrick, Registration No. 32,617; Ernest A. Beutler, Registration No. 19,901; Vito A. Canuso, Registration No. 35,471; William H. Shreve, Registration No. 35,678; Stephen C. Jensen, Registration No. 35,556; J. John Shimazaki, Registration No. 37,236; Steven J. Nataupsky, Registration No. 37,688; Michael Fedrick, Registration No. 36,799; Michael H. Trenholm, Registration No. 37,743; AnneMarie Kaiser, Registration No. 37,649; Darryl A. Smith, Registration No. 37,723; Edward J. Treska, Registration No. 37,744; Nancy Ways Vensko, Registration No. 36,298; Jonathan A. Barney, Registration No. 34,292; John R. King, Registration No. 34,362; Richard C. Gilmore, Registration No. 37,335; Bryan C. DeVault, Registration No. 37,304; Stephen S. Korniczky, Registration No. 34,853; Myra H. McCormack, Registration No. 36,602; Raimond J. Salenieks, Registration No. 37,924; Renée E. Canuso, Registration No. 36,657; Guy L. Cumberbatch, Registration No. 36,114; and Michael L. Fuller, Registration No. 36,516.

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful, false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

Full name of sole or first inventor: WEH WolfgangInventor's signature [Signature] Day 14 Month 12 Year 1999



Attorney's Docket No. \_\_\_\_\_

Residence (city and country): Siemensstraße 5, 89257 Illertissen, Germany

Citizenship: German

Post Office Address: same as residence

Full name of second inventor: WEH Erwin

Inventor's signature Udo Erwin Day 14 Month 12 Year 1999

Residence (city and country): Siemensstraße 5, 89257 Illertissen, Germany

Citizenship: German

Post Office Address: same as residence

Full name of third inventor: \_\_\_\_\_

Inventor's signature \_\_\_\_\_ Day \_\_\_\_\_ Month \_\_\_\_\_ Year \_\_\_\_\_

Residence (city and country): \_\_\_\_\_

Citizenship: \_\_\_\_\_

Post Office Address: \_\_\_\_\_

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Direct Telephone Calls To:

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Applicant or Patentee: **WEH Erwin et al**  
 Serial or Patent No. :  
 For: **FILLING CONNECTION FOR A GAS BOTTLE VALVE**

Attorney's Docket No.:  
 Filed or Issued:

**VERIFIED STATEMENT (DECLARATION) CLAIMING SMALL ENTITY STATUS  
 (37 CFR 1.9(f) AND 1.27(b) - INDEPENDENT INVENTOR)**

As a below-named inventor, I hereby declare that I qualify as an independent inventor as defined in 37 CFR 1.9(c) for purposes of paying reduced fees under section 41(a) and (b) of Title 35, United States Code, to the Patent and Trademark Office with regard to the invention entitled FILLING CONNECTION FOR A GAS..., described in:

- ☒ the specification filed herewith  
☐ application serial no. \_\_\_\_\_, filed \_\_\_\_\_  
☐ patent no. \_\_\_\_\_, issued \_\_\_\_\_

I have not assigned, granted conveyed or licensed and am under no obligation under contract or law to assign, grant, convey or license, any rights in the invention to any person who could not be classified as an independent inventor under 37 CFR 1.9(c) if that person had made the invention, or to any concern which would not qualify as a small business concern under 37 CFR 1.9(d) or a nonprofit organization under 37 CFR 1.9(e).

Each person, concern or organization to which I have assigned, granted, conveyed, or licensed or am under an obligation under contract or law to assign, grant, convey, or license any rights in the invention is listed below:

- ☐ no such person, concern, or organization  
☐ persons, concerns or organizations listed below\*

\* NOTE: Separate verified statements are required from each named person, concern or organization having rights to the invention averring to their status as small entities. (37 CFR 1.27).

FULL NAME:  
 ADDRESS:

- ☐ INDIVIDUAL ☐ SMALL BUSINESS CONCERN ☐ NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION

FULL NAME:  
 ADDRESS:

- ☐ INDIVIDUAL ☐ SMALL BUSINESS CONCERN ☐ NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION

FULL NAME:  
 ADDRESS:

- ☐ INDIVIDUAL ☐ SMALL BUSINESS CONCERN ☐ NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION

I acknowledge the duty to file, in this application or patent, notification of any change in status resulting in loss of entitlement to small entity status prior to paying, or at the time of paying, the earliest of the issue fee or any maintenance fee due after the date on which status as a small entity is no longer appropriate. (37 CFR 1.28(b)).

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application, any patent issuing thereon, or any patent to which this verified statement is directed.

**WEH Wolfgang**  
 NAME OF INVENTOR:

**WEH Erwin**  
 NAME OF INVENTOR:

NAME OF INVENTOR:

W. H. Erwin  
 Signature of Inventor

W. H. Erwin  
 Signature of Inventor

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Signature of Inventor

14<sup>th</sup> Dec. 1999  
 Date

14<sup>th</sup> Dec. 1999  
 Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Date

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